

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6376
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2010
ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the issue of environmental degradation was discussed at the SAARC Festival of Literature held recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the views of participants on it; and
- (d) the final decisions taken in the meeting?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a)to(d) The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and the Foundation of SAARC Writers and Literature (FOSWAL), an apex body of SAARC, jointly organized the SAARC Festival of Literature at the India International Centre, New Delhi from 26-28 March, 2010. The theme of the Festival was Literature, Environment and Cultural Connectivity in the SAARC Region. Poets and literary figures from SAARC member states participated with the common purpose of understanding the environmental threat and the way in which the creative fraternity of the SAARC region could help in tackling it. During the deliberations the SAARC writers expressed views to enhance cooperation with each other for resolving various environmental issues.